REMARKS

IN THE CLAIMS.

Applicant has canceled Claims 2-4, 6, 7 and 9 and added new Claims 10-14. Applicant asserts that the art of record does not disclose, nor render obvious, a method of transferring pipette tips as claimed. Applicant therefore asserts that the claims are in a condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits this preliminary amendment in conjunction with a request for a Continued Prosecution Application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d). Applicant has cancelled all previously pending claims and added new claims 10-14. Applicant submits that claims 10-14 are in a condition for allowance and respectively requests that said claims be passed to allowance.

Early action and allowance is respectfully requested for all pending claims.

Please charge any fees not accompanying this communication that may be required to deposit account 08-2665.

If there are questions, the Examiner can reach applicants' counsel at (801) 521-5800 or by e-mail at rossat@HRO.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Rossa

Registration No. 26,799

Attorney for Applicants

HOLME ROBERTS & OWEN LLP

111 East Broadway, Suite 1100

Salt Lake City, Utah 84111-5233

Telephone: (801) 521-5800

Dated: May 20, 2002